

## Wind turbine inspires young performers



Young people performed a one-off concert inspired by Glyndebourne wind turbine

Almost one year on from the launch of the Glyndebourne wind turbine, over 150 young people from across Sussex performed at the opera house in a gala concert dedicated to exploring nature, nurture and the environment. 'Till the summer comes again' took place on the main stage at Glyndebourne on Sunday 9 December 2012.

The concert made up of five original pieces created by the participants with the support of professional artists and musicians. It was inspired in part by Glyndebourne's ambitions to minimise its environmental impact, as symbolised by the wind turbine which launched in January 2013 and covers 90% of Glyndebourne's power needs. Championed by Gus Christie, Glyndebourne's Executive Chairman, the turbine is a step towards Glyndebourne's ultimate goal of becoming carbon neutral.

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Each piece drew inspiration from one of the operas staged at Glyndebourne during 2012. Amy Bere, Senior Education Projects Manager at Glyndebourne said:

“Glyndebourne is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and the launch of the wind turbine in January marked our biggest step forward to date. As an education department we felt it was really important to follow the launch with a project which would build on our efforts to promote positive environmental action. The young people we work with are of a generation which is well-aware of environmental issues and the theme has proven to be a rich source of inspiration for them. The creativity of the pieces they have developed is really impressive and they’ve been working hard to enhance all aspects of their performance from singing and acting to movement and design. The concert will be a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their talent. “

The young performers in ‘Till the summer comes again’ ranged from 8 – 19 years old and are members of either Glyndebourne Youth Company (GYC) or Glyndebourne Youth Opera (GYO). GYC is an auditioned company of young singers based at the Birley Centre in Eastbourne. Its members are pupils of William Parker School in Hastings, Hailsham Community College, Hove Park School, St Leonards Academy and Peacehaven Community School who all take part in Glyndebourne’s Young Voices project.



## Teacher notes

This drama illustrates how young people can take a change that is occurring in the landscape of the South Downs National Park and use it to inspire art work, in this case opera.

For further examples of how artists have been inspired by the South Downs National Park please go to <http://learning.southdowns.gov.uk/culture-and-heritage/artists-of-the-south-downs>

For information on where you might take groups or to make contact with settings in the South Downs National Park please see the <http://learningmap.southdowns.gov.uk/> or email the South Downs National Park education officer on [learning@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:learning@southdowns.gov.uk).